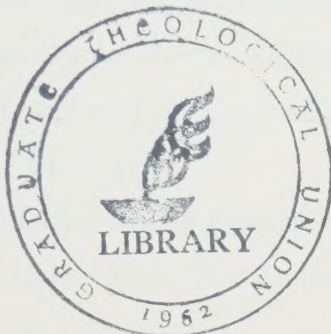


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EXECUTIVE COUNCIL/THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH/815 SECOND AVENUE/NEW YORK, N.Y. 10017

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October 25, 1979

PETER DAY HONORED
ON HIS RETIREMENT

NEW YORK -- On September 30 the Episcopal Church's first Ecumenical Officer retired after 15 years of service.

Peter Day had served in the post since February, 1964. The position was created by the Church's General Convention in 1961.

Ecumenical visitors to the 1979 General Convention in Denver in September paid tribute to Mr. Day at a dinner hosted by Presiding Bishop John M. Allin. Bishop Allin noted Mr. Day's commitment and zeal for his task of helping to heal the divisions in the body of Christ.

"I want to use this occasion of saluting Peter to say that we intend to be serious in this Church about being faithful to this task," the Presiding Bishop said. "We know that the Spirit of God is in this movement."

Bishop Allin presented the retiring Ecumenical Officer with a copy of Communion of Communions: One Eucharistic Fellowship, just published by Seabury Press. The book contains the report of last year's National Ecumenical Consultation in Farmington, Mich., and is dedicated to Mr. Day.

Claire Randall, General Secretary of the National Council of Churches, called Peter Day's term the "longest running act in ecumenical circles," and told the dinner guests that this deserved particular tribute not only because it had spanned several turbulent periods in inter-church relations, but also because this work is often the least supported by the grass roots constituencies.

Other church leaders representing their denominations also credited Mr. Day with having greatly furthered ecumenical dialogues in many directions.

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Mr. Day, as Ecumenical Officer, has been actively engaged in a variety of dialogues looking toward unity, including consultations with the Eastern Orthodox, Roman Catholic, and Lutheran Churches, in addition to his involvement in coordinating the Episcopal Church's relationships with many ecumenical agencies, such as the National and World Council of Churches.

He was associated with The Living Church, an Episcopal Church weekly news magazine, published in Milwaukee, Wis., for 29 years, the last 12 of which he was editor.

Born in Indiana Harbor, Ind., Mr. Day graduated cum laude from Dartmouth College in 1935. He holds the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws from Nashotah House, an Episcopal theological seminary.

His books include Tomorrow's Church: Catholic, Evangelical, Reformed; Saints on Main Street; and Strangers No Longer.

His work will be continued by the Rev. William A. Norgren, Associate Ecumenical Officer at the Episcopal Church Center, New York City. The Rev. William L. Weiler, Associate Ecumenical Officer for Washington Affairs, has an office in the nation's capital.

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Mr. Lee is a member of the Board of Directors of the

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